

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) and the U.S. House voted today to pass the Defense Authorization bill for fiscal year 2008 to authorize appropriations for military activities under the Department of Defense. Several projects benefiting military installations in Maryland's 5th

Congressional District were included in the authorization bill at Rep. Hoyer's request. Overall, the bill authorizes \$645.5 billion - \$2.1 billion more than the president's request - and for the first time since the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan began, provides full-year funding for military operations in those countries.

"Maryland's 5th District houses several important military facilities critical to ensuring the strength of America's national security," stated Rep. Hoyer. "I will continue to fight for the resources necessary to bolster these missions and to ensure that the United States remains the premier military innovator in the world."



At the request of Rep. Hoyer, the following military construction projects were authorized at the indicated levels in the FY08 Defense Authorization bill:

Aircraft Prototype Facility Phase I at NAS Patuxent
- \$17.99 million

The Aircraft Prototype Facility has been in the planning stages for Pax River for more than 10 years and is anticipated to add a significant capability that takes advantage of the existing investment in the Air Combat Environment Test & Evaluation Facility (ACETEF). Stated Rep. Hoyer, “The Advanced Prototype Facility (APF) will augment our ACETEF and Anechoic Chamber capabilities, and we are excited to begin construction on this important National asset.”

E-2 Advanced Hawkeye RDT&E Facility at NAS Patuxent - \$13.65 million The Advanced Hawkeye RDT&E Facility is being built for the arrival of the new E-2D aircraft that will arrive at Pax River for testing later this year. The funding would also provide for several

years of testing and life cycle support for this important program, which is currently one of the Navy's most important aviation initiatives.

Advanced Energetics
Research Lab at Indian Head
- \$9.5 million Innovations in energetics have provided America's military with new weapons - like the thermobaric 'cave busting'

bomb - to meet unforeseen military objectives, such as the assault on the al Qaeda caves in Afghanistan. The Advanced Energetics Research Lab facility is being funded at the request of Rep. Hoyer who has long advocated a long-term investment at Indian Head NSWC that will consolidate several facilities and provide modern laboratory workspace for the highly

skilled personnel at the base. Additionally, language was included in the authorization bill that reinforces the designation of the lab as the DOD's Center for Energetics - a title officially designated during the 2005 BRAC process.

Joint Precision

Approach and Landing System (JPALS) at NAS Patuxent

□ - \$6.75 million

This important facility will house the Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) program that will allow aircraft to land on any suitable land or

sea-based surface
worldwide, regardless
of poor visibility and
bad weather
conditions. This
next-generation
approach and landing
system will provide joint
operational capability
for U.S. forces to
perform assigned

conventional and special operations missions from fixed-base, tactical, shipboard, and other environments. Existing civil and military systems do not satisfy JPALS requirements because they have a number of

shortcomings and they
limit joint operations

Energetics Science
& Technology
Workforce
Revitalization
Initiative at Indian

Head - \$5 millionIn
1998, the Navy and
the University of
Maryland
established the
Center for Energetic
Concepts
Development
(CECD), a
cooperative alliance

to develop the
next-generation of
energetics
professionals to
meet the Navy's
future tactical
requirements and
provide both the
DOD and related
private industry with

the intellectual capital required to maintain America's energetics dominance. Rep. Hoyer has said of this initiative, "Indian Head is home to some of our nation's finest scientists and

engineers, a large segment of whom are nearing retirement age. This workforce revitalization initiative will help produce and sustain the next generation of energetics

experts.”

*In addition,
the FY08 Defense
Authorization bill
provided for*

*additional funding
for the following
previously
authorized projects:*

- Age
Exploration

Model Program –
\$3 million was
added for the
continuation of
funding for an
important NAVAIR
program that
seeks to reduce
downtime and

extends the
service life for
military aircraft
through better
prediction tools
and methodology.

- High Energy

Conventional
Energetics Program
at Indian Head
- \$6 million was
added to improve
the lethality of
conventional
weapons already

in use by the
military.

- AEGIS
- DDG Class ship
Modernization Pr
ogram - \$3.9

million was added for a communications upgrade, which is work that would benefit Webster Field, St. Inigoes.

CLICK
HERE for a
fact sheet on
the Defense
Authorization
for FY 2008.

